



THE MANHATTAN MIDTOWN

The Official Newsletter of Community Board Five
January 2008

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COMMUNITY BOARD FIVE

Dear Friends –

Welcome to our January Newsletter. This is my first month as Community Board 5's new District Manager. Our district is teeming with the talent that is the life-blood of our city. I am excited about the work ahead and the news we can share via this Newsletter. If there are short items or announcements directly related to our district that you would like us to include in this newsletter in the months ahead, feel free to share them with us by emailing all listings to cristina@cb5.org.

In the meantime, have a wonderful holiday and a peaceful New Year!

Sincerely,
Wally Rubin
District Manager

Community News and Events

SSA Offers Streamlined Benefits

Processing - After serving the nation as a member of the military, the last thing a wounded veteran needs is to deal with the bureaucratic morass of applying for and receiving disability benefits. The **Social Security Administration (SSA)** offers expedited processing of disability claims for all wounded veterans disabled while on active duty on or after October 1, 2001. The **SSA** offers publications and information regarding their **Social Security Disability Insurance Program**, which answers such questions as eligibility, the types of benefits one can receive, and how and what is needed to apply for benefits. For more information and to find copies of their publications, visit their website at www.socialsecurity.gov or call 1.800.772.1213. All calls will be treated confidentially.



What To Do With Your Old Christmas Tree - You found the



perfect tree all the way at the back of the lot at the very last place you stopped to look. It was a match made in heaven. Soon, though, the holidays will give way to the long, cold nights of winter and the lights on the tree will be packed away for another year. What to do with the tree? Chew it up and spit it out! Each year NYC gathers Christmas trees that have served valiantly through the holidays

and chops them into tiny little pieces called mulch, a protective ground cover that keeps weeds down, stabilizes soil temperature and protects against soil erosion. The **Department of Sanitation** will collect trees left at the curb from Thursday, January 3rd through Wednesday, January 6th. Make sure all lights, ornaments, and tchotchke are removed first! For more information regarding mulching and composting visit www.nyccomost.org or call 311.

Volunteer For A Worthy Cause - For the past five years, NYC has undertaken a count of the number of people living on the streets – a monumental task to be sure. The **Homeless**

Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE) needs your help to identify homeless men, women, and families to aid in the fight against poverty. Join thousands of volunteers on January 28th, 2008 working in trained teams to canvass streets, parks



and subways. The information gathered will help those living on the streets to a better life. For more information, and to register to help, call 311 or visit www.nyc.gov/dhs

City Agency Announcements

Explore Foster Care – Even if they drive us crazy (and they *always* do), we all look forward to family gatherings and time spent with loved ones at this time of year. For many children in NYC, though, having a family of their own is only a wish. There are approximately 17,000 children currently in foster care in New York, from infants to teenagers. Most are eventually able to return to their birth families and just need a temporary situation, but some children



are in need of permanent homes. Sharing yourself with a child is a life-changing experience for everyone involved. If you've ever thought about becoming a foster parent, the **Administration for Children's Services** (ACS) has the information you need to know if foster care is right for you.

You can find out about services and resources available to those interested in foster care, the whole foster care process and the adoption process, too. Visit their website at www.nyc.gov/acs for more information.

Check It out!

New York may be one of the most expensive cities to live in, but there are plenty of freebies in this town! [Club Free Time](http://www.clubfreetime.com) is a website that lists all manner of mostly free happenings in NYC, from museums and musical events to walking tours and poetry readings. You can search by category (for example, museums) or plug in a date and see what's happening on that day all over town. Visit their website at www.clubfreetime.com and check it out!

Cultural Calendar

There's so much culture in Midtown it's hard to keep track. Below are some events and openings in the upcoming months.

- o **Openings in January**

'THE LITTLE MERMAID' This new Disney extravaganza, based on the animated film, is currently in previews and opens on January 10th at the Lunt-Fontanne Theater, 205 West 46th Street.

'NOVEMBER' A new play by renowned playwright David Mamet, takes place days before a new presidential election. It opens January 17th and stars [Nathan Lane](#). At the Barrymore Theater, 243 West 47th Street.

- o **Events**

The Donnell Library Center – More than just books, the **Donnell Library Center** has a full calendar of events gearing up for January, from a Dixieland jazz concert on January 3rd to a concert version of Verdi's *Un Ballo In Maschera*. The Donnell Library Center is located at 20 West 53rd Street, between 5th and 6th Avenues. For more information and a complete listing of events, call 212.621.0618 or visit the Donnell Library website at www.nypl.org/donnell

The Ice Skating Rink at Bryant Park – It may not have the glamour or fame of the rink at Rockefeller Center, but it's got other advantages: it's bigger and it's FREE! The Bryant Park rink is situated behind the New York Public Library's central research branch, on Sixth Avenue between 40th and 42nd Streets. The temporary rink is set up for a couple of months each year and disappears at the end in early January.

The New York Times Arts & Leisure Week – December brings the exchange of presents and January brings the exchange of ideas. *Arts & Leisure Week* is a series of live events being hosted by The New York Times such as political dialogue with Cornell West, a conversation with Julian Schnabel about film, art and life, and a roundtable with the cast and creators of *Mad Men*, all taking place in **The TimesCenter**, the new midtown home of The New York Times, 41st St. between 7th and 8th Aves. For a full schedule of events visit www.artsandleisureweekend.com



NYC Parking Regulations – There are many legally recognized holidays on which parking regulations are suspended. For the month of January, parking regulations are officially suspended on the following days:

Tuesday, January 1st – New Year's Day
Monday, January 21st – Martin Luther King's Birthday

Changes occur often, so call 311 for daily updates. For more information on Parking Regulations, visit the [DOT Parking Calendar](http://www.nyc.gov) at www.nyc.gov.

Precinct Community Council Meetings

Each month local Police Precincts hold **Community Council Meetings** where community members can voice their concerns for local issues affecting their quality of life.



Council meetings are open to all residents of the precinct. The four precincts located in Community Board Five, and their respective Council meeting times are:

- **10th Precinct** - last Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm. Contact: Det. Mike Petrillo at 212-741-8226
- **13th Precinct** - Every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm. Contact: P.O. Mike Hnatko at 212-477-7427
- **Midtown North Precinct** - Every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm. Contact: Det. Stephen Giaco or Det. Diane Menig at 212-767-8447
- **Midtown South Precinct** - Every 3rd Thursday at 7pm. Contact: Det. Adam D'Amico at 212-239-9846

Liquor License Applicants

Attached is a spreadsheet listing this month's applicants.

If you have any questions regarding this list, please call the office or email office@cb5.org.

Contact Community Board Five

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We're on the Web!

www.cb5.org

If your organization would like to publicize an event in **The Manhattan Midtown**, email your request to: office@cb5.org. To be considered for publication events must be free and open to the public.